

# A brieife and a playne

introduction, teachyng how to pronounce the letters  
in the British tong, (now comenly called *Walsy*) whereby an  
English man shal not only w ease read the said tong rightl:  
but markyng þ same wel, it shal be a meane for h'm with out  
labour and diligence to attaine to the true and natural  
pronunciation of other expediente and most ex-  
cellente languages Set forth by  
W. Saleburye.

†(\*)†

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Crowley, dwelling in Elve rentes  
in Holburne. The yere of  
our Lord. M.D.L.

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Cum privilegio ad imprimendum  
solum.



¶ To hyſ louynge frende, maſter Rycharde Colynge  
borne. Whyllyam Saleſburie wyth prosperous  
health, and perfecte  
felicitie.

†(?)†

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THE naturall inclination, the gentle amitie,  
and the feruent loue and fauoure, whych you  
mooste affectuouſlye, entierlye, and perticlye,  
do not onely owe, but haue, beare, and proſe-  
cute towarde me, my contrye, and contrye language:  
and againe the ſodayne ſemblable vehemente affecti-  
ons whych I moſte comparable and ardent, mutual-  
lye and dulce do beare towards you: hath cauſed me  
to aboꝛtat, (if I myght ſpeake my contrye lāgagē, I  
neaded not to boꝛowe the latine terme, neyther make  
anye further explanation thereof) and to bring foꝛthe  
my late conceyued chyld befoꝛe hyſ naturall and de-  
ſtinated tyme of byꝛthe.

But what than? Foꝛ thys euyl chaunce there lyeth  
none other remedye, but eyther (if he ſeme to haue his  
lineamentes ryghtly proportionated, thoughe as yet  
ſomewhat lumpyſhe) to lycke hym hereafter (as the  
Beare doeth hyꝛ whelpē) into a moꝛe perfecte ſhape:  
eyther els, if he ſhal appeare ouermuche monſtruous  
to take hym and throꝛw hym into the botomeles floud  
of Lethe, where then he ſhall neyther greue the pa-  
rentes hertes, noꝛ yet offende the eyen of kynne, noꝛ  
ſtraunger.

But peraduenture ye wyll ſaye, what by all thys  
ye ſpeake in parables, but I pray you frende Saleſ-  
burie ſpeake plaine Englyſhe to me. Well therfoꝛe to  
appeare in mine owne likenes, and to be as plaine as

A.ii.

the



**The Epistle**  
the playne of Salesburie. The sayde child is thys  
boke, whom you so inordinate ly desire to go abroad  
befoze the appoynted season by the determination of  
the graue, discrete and pithy Poete Horace Flactus,  
whose verses be not farre from these in sentence.

When that thy rilles penne, of same hath ought contrit:  
At aetius care se that thou tunc, the cord in work reuind  
And let them iudge therein, whose heates be grisely growne:  
Let midle age, let vntipe yeres, theron their iudgmēt sowne.  
Than maist thou well at wil (nine yeres in trial spente)  
Set forth the worx of wisdomes braine, that the in lot is lent  
The sounde escaped once, can not be called backe:  
But shut by thoughts in hert mai be, amēded wher they lack.

Yet neuertheles, for your faithful frendshyps sake  
I wyll not onely wynke at thys, but euen aduissedly  
wyl forsake the prudēt counsaile of the wise mā thus  
admonishynge. A sole differeth nothinge from a wise  
man whyles he keperth silence: yea, and I am not abas  
hed to publishe these vnsauoury trilles (for the small  
commoditie that you shall perceine by them) amonge  
the honourable theatre, and worshipfull company of  
the learned, whiche moste plentifully (thankes be to  
the Lorde) habound now in euery place.

But of whence than commeth this vnschamefast  
boldnes? Marve of a licence graunted and prouided  
for me by the verye same Poete, whose owne phrase,  
metre, and wordes (ye lest by vnapt traduction of the  
same, I should disgrace the diuine poeticall maiestie)  
I wyll here subscribe.

— hoc tibi dictum

Tolle memor, ceteris medium et tolera lile rebus  
Ecce concedi: consultus iuris et actor  
Causarum mediocris, abest virtute discreti  
Messale, nec scit quantum Casellius Aulus  
Sed tamen in pretio est.

Beede



### The Epistle

Besides this, the head learned man of all our tyme  
euen Erasmus Rotterodamus, holdeth sooze on my  
partte, for it is a true said sawe (sayth he) y there is not  
written so yll a booke, but it is worthy the reading for  
some consideration. And againe, he affirmeth euen a-  
bout the same place that it is expediente to heare the  
vblearned playe the oratours or preachers, whereby  
it maye appeare, what shall be decent, and what not.

Therefore (I saye) be it expedient or rather toller-  
able to admitte as well some such vblearned wrytters  
as haue not the grace to obserue & to prepon or comply-  
nes euery where, and at all tymes. Amongest whiche  
sorte I wyl not disoayne to be accounted, seying I am  
adsured to satisfie in some partte your intade, though  
it be but slenderly to the purpose.

And in as much as I am fulli perswaded that you  
be the man to whom boeth for good learnyng & per-  
fecte iudgement therein, and for the fauour pretended  
to warke this feble enterpryse, I neades muste com-  
mit this booke (if for the littlenes it may be iustely cal-  
led a booke) not onely to be redde, corrected, & perfec-  
ted, but also to be defended from the cancred maliti-  
ous checkes of all those, who at all tymes canne be at  
better layzure to rebuke other mens doynge, than to

Do ought them selues. Thus fare ye hartelye

well. At Chaunces Inn in Holburne  
more hastely, than spedelye.

M.D.L.



Wylliam Salesburie to the  
Reader.



the occa  
on of p  
aayng  
f thys  
oke.

It was not longe after (gentle Reader) that  
I had compyled a little Dictionarye for the  
vse and behoue of my contry men, & Walsh-  
men, and the same sette forth and published  
at the kinges hyghnes licence and pleasure, but there  
came certayne persons vnto me, whereof some were  
Englysh marchers bordering vpon Wales: and some  
not skilful in the Walsh tongue, neuertheles hauyng  
good and honeste occasions, eyther for their promoti-  
ons and luynges, eyther els for trade of Marchan-  
dice and other their affayres to be conuersante in the  
sayde contrye of Wales, and peraduenture sometime  
chaunce to be amonge them that can not a worde of  
Englishe.

And some other were such Walshmen that had be-  
brought vp from their youth and tender age, oute of  
the precincts of their natieue contrye, who thoughte it  
reproch to be vtterly ignoraunt in their mother tong,  
hauyng a mind also to come to some knowledge ther-  
in, wherby they myght & rather (semyng lesse straung)  
renewe frendshyp and familiaritie with their contrye  
folke and frendes, ( whiche thyng otherwyse they  
coude not so conuenientlye bryng to passe) a mooste  
chiefely to edifie them, as well in ciuile institutions,  
as in godlye doctryne.

Nowe the other some, were such Englishe men as  
had not so vrgente a cause, nor so earnest an occasion  
to trauell in thys behalfe, but yet were they so feruent  
(as it seemed bi their importune request) as they (whom  
I spake of before) whom the Grekes with one propre  
terme

the  
f  
g  
a  
b  
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a  
  
q  
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fo  
it  
De  
le  
  
a  
ne  
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ny  
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cia  
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terme cal is biloglorious, whose gentle herted disposition is alwaies addicte, bente, & geuen to be sene in all languages, but speciallye of their owne felows subiectes and contrrey menne, though they purchase thereby but small gaynes, lucre, or wynnynge, whiche thynges be the honied swete baytes of the auaricious beastly misers, and contrarywyse the defiaunce of all liberal and noble stomakes.

Whan (I saye) suche menne resorted vnto me to question whether the sayde Dictionarye was as indifferent for Englyshe men to learne Walthe by, as for Walthe men to learne Englyshe: I answered that it was not al so indifferent. The reason why, if I should declare it, should not be easely perceyued but of the learned, who do vnderstande it already.

Than emongest other communication hadde, they asked, whether the pronounciation of the Letters in Walthe, dyd dyffer from the Englyshe soundynge of them: And I sayde verie muche. And so they perceyuyng that they coulde not profite in buildynge anye further on the Walthe, lackynge the foundation and grounde worke (whyche was the Walthe pronounciation of the letters) desired me este sones to write vnto them (as they hadde sene me do in Walthe to my contrrey men, to introduce them to pronounce the letters Englyshe like) a fewe englyshe rules of the naturall power of the letters in our touge.

And so than, in as muche as I was not onelye induced by the premises, but also further perswaded that neither any inconuenience or mischefe might ensue or grow therof, but rather the encrease of mutuall amitie and brotherly loue, and continuall frendshyppe,  
and



To the Reader.

and some commoditie at the leaste wise, to suche as  
be desierous to be occupied thereaboutes. As for all  
other, euen as it shall neuer worke them pleasure, so  
shall it no displeasure.

Euen therefore at the last, I haue bene so bold as  
to enterpryse (condescendynge to suche mens honeste  
requeste) to inuent and wyte these plaine, siniple, and  
rude rudimentes of the woalthe prouunciation of the  
letters, moste humbly desierynge the Readers to  
accepte them wyth no lesse beniuolente hu-  
manitie than I hertely pretended to  
wardes them, whan I went a-  
bout to treate of the  
matter.



# **The Pronunciation of the the letters** in the Britische tongue.

†(\*)†

✱



**The letters in the Britische or W althe tongue,**  
haue the same fygure & fashon as they haue  
in Englysh, and be in numbze as here vnder  
neth in the Alphabet appeareth.

**A b c ch d dd e f ff g h i k l ll m n o p r s,**  
**t th v u w y.**

**These be the bowels.**

**a e i o u w y.**

**These two bowels**

**a, w, be mutable.**

**The diphthonges be these, and be pronoūced after the**  
**very Greke pronunciation.**

**ae ai au aw ay**

**ei ew**

**ia ie io ito**

**oe ow oy**

**uo**

**wy.**

**As euaga**  
**gel of eus**  
**gelion.**

**These letters be called consonauntes.**

**b c ch d dd e ff g k l ll m n o p r s t th v.**

**The pronunciation of A.**



**In Britische or W althe in euery worde hath**  
**the true pronunciation of A in latine. And it**  
**is neuer sounded like the diphthonge au, as**  
**the frenche men sound it commynge before**

**B.**

**m. o. n.**



The pronounciation of the letters  
 m. o. n. in their tonge, nor so fully in the mouth as the  
 Germaines sounde it in this woꝛde ~~W~~agen: Neyther  
 yet as it is pronounced in Englyshe, whan it commeth  
 before ge, ll. sh. tch: Nor in these woꝛdes and suche o-  
 ther in englyshe, Domage, heritage, language, ashe,  
 lashe, watch, calme, call (a) is thought to Decline to-  
 warde the sounde of these diphthonges ai, au, and the  
 woꝛdes to be reade in thys wise, Domaige, heritaige,  
 languaige, aithe, waitthe, caul, caulme. But as I said  
 before, a. in walsh hath alwaies but one sound what  
 so euer letter it folowe or go before, as in these woꝛ-  
 des ap, cap. whyche haue the same pronounciation &  
 signification in both the tonges.

Muche lesse hath a, suche varietie in Walthe, as  
 hath Aleph in Hebrue (which alone y points altered)  
 hath the sounde of euery bowell. Howbeit that com-  
 position, deriuation, and the plurell numbꝛe, do ofte  
 times in the commune walthe speache chaunge a, for  
 e. as in these woꝛdes, bnweith, seithfed, ebestyl. Ne-  
 uertheles e. then succedeth, and is also wꝛitten in the  
 stede of a. so that the Reader shall neuer be troubled  
 therewith.

### The sounde of B.

**B**, In Walthe is vniuersallie reade and pro-  
 nounced as it is in Englyshe. Albeit whan  
 a woꝛd begynneth wꝛth b, and is toynd w-  
 moe woꝛdes comyng in a reason, the phrase  
 and the maner of the Walthe speache (muche lyke af-  
 ter the Hebrues idome) shall alter the sounde of that  
 b. into the sounde of the Hebrue letter that they call  
 Beth

So do  
 these wal  
 the woꝛ



in the Britthe tongue.

Beth not dagged, or of the Greke Beta, eyther els des, or  
of b. beyng consonant in latine or Englysh, as thus. <sup>ult, cuncto</sup>  
So here as b. in thys walthe worde bys a fyrger, is <sup>cul, bicles</sup>  
the primitive (or if I shold bozo to the Hebrue name) <sup>u bych be</sup>  
the radicall letter, whyche commynge in the context <sup>deriued</sup>  
of a reason shall not than be called b. but v. as in this <sup>et cubito,</sup>  
texte: I bys: his finger. And sometime b. shal be tur- <sup>cubictu,</sup>  
ned into m, as for an ensample. by mys: my fyrger. <sup>bisectus,</sup>  
And yet for all the alteration of this letter b, and of  
diuerse other (as ye shall perceiue hereafter) whyche  
by their nature be chaungeable one for an other, it shal  
nothyng let nor hynder anye man, fro in the true and  
prowpe readinge of the letters so altered.

For as sone as the ydrome or pproprie of the tong  
receyuethe one letter for an other, the radicall is omit-  
ted and left away: and the accessorie or the letter that  
commeth in stede of the radicall, is forthwyth wyrt-  
ten and so pronounced after his owne nature & power  
as it is playne inough, by the former example.

Provided alwayes that such transmutation of letters  
in speakinge (for therein consisteth all the difficultie) is  
mooste diligentelye to be marked, obserued, and taken  
hede vnto, of him that shall desire to speake walthe  
ryghte.

### Howe C is pronounced.



Maketh k. for loke what power hath c. in As it is true  
Englishe or in Latine, when it commeth be- <sup>acth circut</sup>  
foze a. o. u. that same shall it haue in walthe <sup>deducted</sup>  
befoze anye bowel, dyptonge, or consonant <sup>or circuta,</sup>  
what so euer it be. <sup>natalis of</sup>

B.ii.

Howe



## The pronuntiation of the letters

accen of  
accentus  
discipul  
of discipu  
lus, cist of  
cist.

Howe be it some of our time do vse to wryte .k. rather than .c. where wryters in tymes past haue lefte .c. wrytten in their auncient booke, specially before .a. o. u. and before all maner consonantes, and in the laster ende of wordes. Also othersome ther be, that sound now .c. as .g. in the laste termination of a worde: An exemple: oc, koc, lloc: whiche be moste commune: by redde, og, kog, llog.

Constructi-  
on is ta-  
ken here  
for p. 107.  
ning tog-  
ther of  
wordes o-  
therwise  
called a  
reason.  
Carw is  
the abso-  
lute word

Furthermore it is the nature of .c. to be turned into .ch, and other whyles into, .g. But I meane this, whā a worde that begynnech wyth .c. cometh in constructi- on as thus: Carw, a harte, Ewic a charw, a hind and a harte. Either els whan .c. or .k. (for they be boeth one in effecte) is the fyrste letter of a worde that shall be compounded, as for an example: Angraff, angled, angrist, whiche be compounded of an, and of kraff, kred, krist.

## The sounde of ch.

Ch, doeth whollie agree wyth the pronuntiation of ch, also in the Germaine tonge, of the Greke Chy, or the Hebrue Cheth. or of gh, in Englyshe: And it hath no affinitie at al wyth ch, in Englyshe, excepte in these wordes, Mychael, Mychaelmas, and a fewe suche other. Ch also whan it is the radical letter in anye word, remayneth immutable in euery place.

## The sounde of D.

D is



in the Britische tonge.



Is redde in walshe none other wyse than in Englyshe, saynge onely that oftentimes d, in the firste sillables shall be turned into dd, resemblyng muche Daleth the Hebrue d. And sometyne whan a worde begynning wyth d, is compounded wyth (an) the d, shall flyp a waye, as anawon, of an, and dawone: anoeth, of an and doeth.

dd is nothyng lyke of pronounciation to dd. in englysh or latin: for y double dd. in walshe hath y very soude of dhelta, or dhalet, dashed w raphe, or of d. betwixt. ii. bowels in the Hispanish tong, either els of th. as they be communely sounded in these englyshe wordes, the, that, thys, thynne: Neyther do I meane nothyng lesse than that dd. in walshe be sounded at anye tyme after the soude of th. in these wordes of Englyshe, wyth thynne, thanke. But ye shall fynde in olde wrytten Englyshe booke, a letter hauyng the figure of a Romaine y. that youre auncesters called dhorn, whych was of one efficacie wyth y walshe dd. And there be now in some contryes in England that pronounce dd. euen in these wordes \* addes, fedder, \* An instrument of a Couper. accordyng as they be pronounced in the walshe. And ye muste note that dd. in walshe is not called double dd. neyther is it a double letter (though it semeth so to be) wherfore it doeth not fortifie nor harden the sillable that it is in, but causeth it to be a great deale more thycke, softe, & smothe. For he that firste added to the seconde d. mente thereby to aspirate the d. and signifie that it shold be more lightly sounded, and not the contrary.

But I thynke it had be easier, more mete, and lesse

B.iii.

straunge



The pronuuciation of the lettres  
straunge to the Reader, if that he hadde put h. after  
the former d, in a signe of asperation, than to adde an  
other d, thereto.

And as it semeth it is not passynge thre or foure. C.  
yeres ago, synce they began to double their d, for be-  
fore that tyme by lykelihode they vsed one constante  
maner of pronuuciation of their letters, even as the  
Hebrues did at the begynnyng.

### Howe E ought to be sounded

**E** Without anye exception hath one perma-  
nent pronuuciation in Walsh, and that is the  
selfe pronuuciation of E pylon in Sicke, or  
of e, in the latine beyng sounded anyghie, or  
e. in English, as it is sounded in these wordes, a were  
wreke, breke, wreke.

And the learner muste take good hede, that he ne-  
uer do reade the sayd e, as it is read in these English  
wordes, we, beleue: for than by so doynge, shall he  
either alter the signification of the worde wherin the  
same e, is so corruptely reade, eyther els cause it to  
betoken nothyng at all in that speache. Example: pe,  
signifieth in English and, if now, if ye read it pt. than  
wyl it betoken thys letter p. or the byrde that ye call  
in englyshe a Pye. And so gwe is, a webbe: but if ye  
sounde e, as i. readinge it gwt: than hath it no signifi-  
cation in the Walsh.

And leasse peraduenture the forsayde example of  
the walsh or straunge tonge be somewhat obscure,  
than take thys in your owne or other tonge for an ex-  
planation of that other: wherby ye shal perceyue that  
the



In the Britische tongue.

the diuersitie of pronounciation of e, in these Englyshe wordes subscribed hereafter, wyll also make them to haue diuerse significacions, and they be these wordes, here, pere, hele mele. Neyther yet do we vse in no althe at anye tyme to wypte e, in the middle or last sillables and to leaue it vnspoken in readynge: as it is done by Scheua in hebrue, or as the maner of wyptyng and readynge of the same, is accustomed in englyshe, as it shall be more manifeste by these wordes that folowe: golde, sylke, purenes, Chepesyde: wherein (as I suppose) e. is not wrytten to the entent it myght be reade or spoken, but to mollifye the sillable that it is put in.

But now I am occasioned to declyne and straye somewhat frome my purpose, and to reueale my fantasie to yonge wyters of Englyshe, whoe (me thynketh) take ouer muche paynes, and bestowe vntrequisite coste (hauynge no respecte to the nature of the englyshe endinge e.) in doublyng letters to harden the sillable, and immediatlye they adde an, e (whiche is a signe of mittragynge and softenyng of the sillable) after y letters so doubled, as thus: manne, worshippe Godde, wotte, wythe, goodnesse, hemme nette: whiche wordes wyth suche other like, myght wyth lesse labour, and as well for the purpose, be wrytten on this wyse: man, worshyp, Godd, wott, wyth, goodnes, hemm, nett: or rather this: man, worshyp, God, wot, wyth, goodnes, hem net.

For accordynge to the comen prouerbe, it is but foly to bestowe more, where lesse wyll serue.

Howe

An obseruation for  
wryttinge  
of english  
whiche in  
printynge  
can not so  
well be  
kept.



The pronounciation of the letteres

Howe **f** is communely sounded.



In **Walche** and **W** beyng consonant in **Walch** englyshe, or latine, be so nyghe of sounde that they vse mooste communely to write in **Walche** indifferentlye the one for the other. And I my selfe haue hearde Englyshemen in some contryes of Englaude sounde **f**. euen as we sounde it in **Walche** for I haue marked their maner of pronounciation and speciallye in soundyng these wordes: boure, blue, disfigure, bishe: where they woulde saye, foure, fiue, disfigure, fysh. &c.

But who so euer knoweth the sounde of the letter called Digamma (whose figure is muche lyke **f**. but ouerwhelmed vpsydedowne, as ye see here **f**) he shal also knowe therby the verye sounde of the synge **f**. in **Walche**.

The sounde of **ff**.

**ff** In **Walche** hath but the same sound that the single **f**. hath in englyshe. And they are sayne to vse the double **ff**. for the single **f**. bicause they haue abused **f**. in stede of **v**. a consonante. But in suche wordes as haue **p**. for the first letter of their original (for to kepe the orthographie) they write **ph**. and not **ff**. as thus. **Petr a Phawol, Peter and Paule.**

The pronounciation of **G**.



In every worde in **Walche** soundeth as the Hebrue Gynel: or **g**. in **Deutche**, or as **g**. in Englyshe soundeth before a **o** or **u**. And marcke well that **g**. neuer soundeth in **Walche** as it doeth



in the Britishe tongue

Doeth in englische in these wordes, George, gruger. **G**, is but  
**G**, also in walshe scietyme (whan it cometh in a res- <sup>verpele-</sup>  
son) shall be turned into ch, and scietyme elided or <sup>den int-</sup>  
lefte cleane out of the word as thus: a chweddy henny. <sup>ch.</sup>  
tawon ne wad: koch ne las: and not koch ne glas. <sup>chwedy</sup>

And other while wordes compounded shall put a- <sup>chwad,</sup>  
waye g, as these do, serloyw, dulas: whose symple be <sup>glas</sup>  
these: ser, gloyw: du glas.

### Of the aspiration H.

**I**n euerye worde that it is wytten in, in  
walshe, hath he his aspiration in speakinge  
also, and is reade, even as in these wordes of  
Englishe, hard, heard, hart, hurt: And ther-  
fore where so euer h, is wytten in walshe, lette it be  
reade wyth all, and not holden styll, as it is done in  
frenche and Englyshe in suche wordes as be deriued  
oute of latine as these, honest, habitation, humble ha-  
bite. &c. Except whan h, is settled betwene two vowe-  
ls in walshe wordes: for than it forceth not greatlye  
whether h, be sounded or not, as in these wordes that  
folowe: bzenhin, kyhyz, mehein, gweheu, heheu, gwe-  
hydd, gohyz. &c.

### The sounde of I.

**I**n walshe hath the mere pronounciation of  
i, in latine, as learned men in our tyme vse to  
soude it, & not as they y to their corrupt pro-  
nounciation make a dipthong of it, saying: vei,  
dei, tseiwei, for vidi, tibi. But loke howe i, soundeth in  
C.i. English



The pronuntiation of the letters

Englyshe in these wordes: singing, ringing, drinking, winkinge, nighe, sighe, might, tight.

So the i, in euery syllabe in walsch hath euē y same sounde as e, hath in Englysh in these woordes: we, se thee, bre. And i, is neuer sounded so broade in walshe as it is in this English word \* I. And beside that i, is neuer consonant in walsch, but euer remaining a bo well, as it doeth in the Germayne tong, or as iota in the Greke. And bicause they that haue not tasted of the preceptes of Grāmer do not lightly vnderstand what thys terme consonant meaneth: I wyll speake herein as playne as I can, for to induce them to vnderstand my meanyng.

Whan i,  
is conso-  
nant.

Therefore whan we saye in spellynge m, a, ma: i, e, ie, st, e, ste, mateste: (or) I, e, Je, s, u, s, sus, Iesus: now in these two wordes, mateste and Iesus: i, is consonant. But whan I spel on thys wyse: i, per se, i, or k, or k, and wyth doyng them togyther, read iork: than i, is not called consonant, but hath the name of a bo well.

Whan i,  
is a bo w-  
ell.

And therefore if ye like to reade ryghlye walshe wordes in whom i, is wyrtten, an other bo well immediately folowynge (for therein els is there no hynde- rance for the straunge reader) than must you harken

I for y.  
I in thys  
word ipe,  
(oculus)  
is now co  
munelye  
writen &  
read as it  
is in wals-  
he.

(howe i, which I wyrtte for y) is sounded in these englyshe wordes: i-ane, i-arde, i-arne, ielde, i elk, i-elle, ielow, iere, iok, tong, tought, Iorke, iou: And though these wordes be written here now wyth i, in the first letter of euery one, yet it is ment that you should read them as the i, were y, and as they had be wyrtten on this fashyon: yane, yarde, yelde, yelke, yell, yelow, yere,



in the Britische tongue.

pere, pok, pong, pougth porke, pou.

Nowe I truste that the dullest wytted chylde that neuer reade but two lynys, perceaueth so familiar a rudimente.

### The sounde of k.



Followeth the rule of c, in euerye poynte, and therefore loke for the effecte of k, where it is treated of the letter c.

### The sounde of l.



Hath none other differēce in sound in walshe than in Englysh. And note that it nether causeth a, nor o, when they come before it, to sounde anye more fullier in the mouthe, than they do els sounde, commyng before any other letter. And for the playner vnderstandynge thereof, loke in the rules that entreate of the sounde of a, and o.

And marcke when soeuer ye se l, to be the fyrste letter of a worde, that eyther the same worde cometh in construction, eyther els the worde is of an other language, and but vsurped in walshe.

### Of the straunge sounde of Double.ll.

C.ll.

Al can



### The pronounciation of the letters

**L**i, can not be declared anythyng lyke to the purpose in wytyng, but onely by mouth: if ye than will learne howe it ought to be sounded: For (as it is said before of D) so the second l, is added in stede of h: but loke howe Lambda comming before Fota is sounded in the Greke: euē so pronounce we ll, in the walsh. And if ye coulde hit kindly on the right and iuste pronounciation of lh, thus aspirated: not leauyng vnsounded the entier efficacitie and the whole strength of the aspiration: than shoulde not you be farre dissonant fro the true sounde of our walsh ll.

For the walsh l, is spoken the tonge bowed by a lyttle to the rouse of the mouth, and wyth that somewhat extendinge it selfe betwete the fore teathe, the lyppes not all touchyng together (but leauyng open as it were for a wyndowe) the ryghte wyke of the mouth for to breathe oute wyth a thicke aspirated spirite the same ll. But as I sayde before, and if ye wyl haue the very walsh sounde of thys letter: geue eare to a walshman whan he speaketh culltell, which betokeneth a knyfe in Englishe: or ellys a goste:

The walshman or the Hispanyard compose their mouthes muche after one fashion whā they pronounce their ll, sauynge that the walshman uttereth it wyth a more thicker and a more mightier spirite.

### The sounde of M.



In walsh hath such a sounde as ye heare it haue in Englishe or latine: but yet it is one of the letters y be chaungeable in construction as thus: mwy, moo: llaine vwy, lesse or more



In the Britische tongue.  
more, mboybwoy, more (and) more.

### The sounde of M.

**N**, Is none otherwise sounded in Walthe than in Englishe: but sometyme (after the latyne maner) whan it commeth before b, or p, in composition, it is thā turned into m, as ymblaen, whiche is compounded of yn and blaen: amparch, of an and parch, ampwoyll, of an and pwoyll.

### The sounde of O.

**O**, In Walthe is sounded accoꝝdyng to the ryght soundynge of it in latine: eyther els as the sounde of o, is in these Englishe wordes: a doo, a roo, a too: and o, neuer soundeth in Walthe as it doeth in these wordes of Englishe: to do, two. But marke that o, in Walthe goynge before l, ll, soundeth nothyng more boystouse, that is to saye, that it inclineth to the sounde of the dipthonge ou (as it doeth in Englyshe) no more than if it hadde gone before anye other letter.

### The sounde of P.

**P**, In Walthe differeth not from the Englysh sounde of p: but p commynge in constructiō foloweth þ rules of the Hebrue phe: saue somtyme it is turned into b, as thus: pedwar bump, for pump. And sometyme p, in composition is chaunged also into b, as whā we say ymbell for ympell.

C.iii.



The pronuclation of the letters  
ympell. And one whyle it is left out of the compound  
wozdes: as whan these wozdes: kymell, kymozth, be  
wzitten for kympell, kympozth.

And an other whyle our tonge geueth vs to sound  
it, as it were an h, as whan we saye: ymhle, ymblwy,  
ymblas, for ymple, ymplwy, ymplas.

### The sounde of Q.



Is not receiued among the numbze of the  
letters in walshe as yet, but k supplveth his  
roome, & vsurpeth his office in every place.  
And y Greks are fayne to pzactice the same  
feacte, as ye may se it done. Luc. ii. where Kyrimou, is  
wzitten for Quirino.

### The sounde of R.



Is sounded alike in walshe and Englyshe,  
but r, in walshe for the mooste parte is pro-  
nounced wyth aspiration, especialye beyng  
the fyzte letter of the worde. And for the as-  
pication h, they comunely put to an other r, as they  
playe by d, and l, even thus: rroygwyd, rrodzes,  
rringill, Rulfain: But the maner of some is to wzite  
one greate captall R, (whan it is the fyfte letter of a  
wozd) for the lesser double rr. Also r, serueth the turn  
that n, doeth in Englyshe, that is to wytte, to be putte  
betwene vowels metynge togyther in two sondze  
wozdes, for to stoppe the vncomey gapynge in speach  
as ye shall perceyue by these wozdes: y-z awr: a-n  
houre.

The



in the Walthe tonge.

### The sounde of. S.

**S**, Soundeth in Walthe as it doeth in latine: neyther hath it two diuers soundes as it hath in Englyshe or french, for when it cometh betwene two vowels in these two languages, it is so remissely and lithly sounded as it were a z, as by these two wordes of boeth the tonges it is manifestly proued. *Faisant a fessant.*

### The sounde of T.

**T**, Lyke wyse hath but one sounde, and that is as the latines sounde it in these wordes: *atutute, tegit*: Neyther do I meane that t, in Walthe is sounded at anye tyme like th, as some barbarous lispers do, who depaue the true latine pronounciation, readyng *Amath*, for *amat*, *Dederith* for *dederit*. &c.

Howbeit marke well thys exception, that t, is neuer reade like c, thowout the walthe tonge, as it is communely read of Englyshe men in latine verbales endinge in *tio*, as *pronunciatio, electio, subiectio*. &c.

Marke also, that it is the nature of t, to be turned into d, and sometyme into th, and some other tyme it is so lyghtly spoken, that the t, is quite lefte awaye, and there remaineth but the h, in stede of the t. But thys is to be vnderstand whē t, is the first letter of a word set in constriction to be construed or builde together on thys fashion: *Na thre ynhy dwoyne daie*.

For before they be hewed, squared, and loyned togyther wyth theyr tenants and moztelles, they lye  
in rude



## The pronuuciation of the letters

in rude and vnderstod timbre after this maner of sort:

**The atto** **Des.** **Ma** tryc ynty dwoyne fair. Furthermoze t, in deriuacion is left out of the deriued wordes, that they mighte sounde moze pleasaunte to the eare, as ye maye take these for an example: chwanor of chwant: gwnoc of gwoynt: monwoni of monwent: henieu of halnt. &c.

## The sounde of Th.

Th, hath the semblable and lyke sounde in **Welsh** as it hath in **Englyshe** in these wordes: thezowe, thycke, and thynne: but it is neuer so lythlye spoken, as it is comunly sounded in these other wordes: that, thou thine, this.

Moreover th, wyttten for the fyrste letter & fanye worde, sheweth the same word to be than in construction. For there is no walthe worde standinge absolutely that hath th, for his fyrste letter but t, is his native and originall letter, for the whiche in construction th, is communely vsed. Neither yet do we vse to wyte th, in anye worde, and to reade the same as t, or d, as it is comunely done in these englysh wordes: Thomas, throne, treasure, Chautesinne: whych be mooste vniuersallye spoken after thys sorte: Tomas, trone, treasure, Daules inne.

**Chautes**  
**inne.**

## The sounde of V beyng consonant.

**There be**  
**but fewe**  
**wordes in**  
**Walthe**  
**beginne**  
**wyth v.**



, Speciallye beyng wyttten in thys maner of fashion v, soundeth in walthe as in englysh or latine, whā it is a consonant. And it lightly neuer begynneth a word, except the word be con-



in the Britishe tonge.

be constructed & ioyned with one or more wordes. For than b, or m, beyng the originall or radical letter, is transmuted or chaunged (accoꝝdyng to the coꝝgruities of the tonge) into v, a consonant.

The sounde of u, beyng a  
vowel.

But u, wyttē after this maner u, is a vowel, and soundeth as the vulgare Englishe people soude it in these wordes of Englyshe: truste, bury, busy.

But knowe well that it is neuer sounded in walshe, as it is done in any of these two Englyshe wordes (notwithstanding the diuerse sound of them) sure, lucke. Also the sound of u, in French, or ũ, wyth two prick-kes ouer the heade in Teutche, or the Scottishe pronunciation of u, alludeth some what nere vnto the sound of it in walshe, though yet none of them all, doeth so exactly (as I thynke) expresse it, as the Hebraick kushuts doeth.

For the walshe u, is none other thing, but a meane sounde betwyxe u, and y, beyng latyne vowels.

And therefore who so euer wyll distinctly learne the walshe sound of u, let hym once geue eare to a walshe man, whan he speaketh in walshe, the wordes that signifie in englishe obedience (or) one \* chaffe: whych be these in walshe. ubudd, ussun. And this vowel u, alone amonge all the letters in walshe, swarueeth in sounde from the true latine pronunciation. Neither is u thus sounded, but of the vnlearned, who abuse it for y, & that more often of vs that be of Northwales, than of the Southren walshe man.

\*Acus?  
seu pales

u abused  
for y.

D. i.

The



## The pronuntiation of the letters

### The sounde of w.



In Walthe and englyshe hathe but one fy-  
gure and power, though it chaunceth to haue  
two diuerse names, for in Englyshe ye call it  
double uu, & in Walthe we geue it the name  
of a syngle u, but than soundynge it after the Latine  
pronuntiation.

But the lesser Greke o, ioyned togyther wyth the  
Greke y, made a dipthonge, oz the Hebraik Uaf. cum  
puncto schurek in ventre, eyther oo, in these englyshe wo-  
cables: booke, looke, boorde, woorde, shall rather ex-  
presse hys name, than hys propre efficacie.

But hys owne power, and peculier office in  
Walthe, shall there no letter nor letters moze precise-  
lye set it forth than the w, it selfe, wyth the Englyshe  
pronuntiation. For althoughe the Germanes vse a  
w, yet in some wordes sound they it (to my hearing)  
as the forther u, were a bowell, and the latter a con-  
sonant, where we the Britons sounde both uu, who-  
ly togyther as one bowell, wythout anye sondre de-  
stinction, but beyng alwayes eyther the forther oz  
the later parte of a dipthonge in englysh on this wyse:  
wyth, a we: and in Walthe as thus: wyth, a wen.

### The sounde of x.



Is not founde as yet in the Walch Alpha-  
bet: for the walch speach hath no nede of his  
office: bicause that suche walche wordes as  
be deducted of the Latine, turne their x, into s, as do  
these: crws, nos, estestenna, escommuna, estran, bies-  
ses, whiche come of Crux, nos, extendo, excommunico, ex-  
traneus,



in the Britishe tongue.

craneus bisextus.

### The sounde of y.

**I**n Walthe is sounded in Walthe as it is these English words: yn, synne, ys, thynne, wyne. Neither yet, as it is sounded of the commune people in any of these two words folowynge: wyde, wyng. Also y, beyng a woorde counteruayleth the signification of (the) in English: and of Le, in French, or of the articles Ha, Ho, in Hebrue & Greke, as thus: y Dyn, whose propre signification in Englyshe is not communely vsed, excepte a man shoulde say, the person: but Le homme, shall well declare it to any that shall be skilled in the French.

### Of the letter z.

**I**n Walthe is vnknowne in so much that it was neuer placed in anye walthe woode by therto: Neither needed I once to speake of it but bycause I woulde put the reader vtterly oute of doubte in this behalfe.

### Of the Abbzeuations.

A, o, Be neuer vsed in the Walthe, neyther occupy they but few breuiations of sillables, but write euerie sillable at length, saue only in some propre names of me as they do in these: Eden, for Edenyed: Eign Eigion: Gro, for Grono: Gr. or Gruff, for Gruffich: Jeun for D.ii. Ieuan, for



The pronounciation of the lettets

**F**oz, for **F**ozwerth: **K**en, for **k**enwoꝝyck: **L**in for  
**L**ewelin: **M**ad, for **M**adock: **T**ud, for **T**uder. &c

Whiche kynde of breuiations be not vnwoꝝthy the  
markinge of all such englyshe men, as shall be eyther  
pregonotaries, clarkes, oz counsaylours in Wales.

**F**oz **I** do remembre that once a clarke (being but a  
yonge begynner) at an assise in oure countrey, redde a  
mans name beinge (shorte wꝝitten) **E**den ap **F**ozum.  
wher he should haue read it **E**denyuet ap **F**ozwerth.  
And so the crier called styl, **E**den ap **F**ozum come in  
to the court, oz lose .x. li. that shalt thou lose, for thou  
was sene here euen now.

And true it was, for the person that was so oft and  
so loude called, stode styl all thys whyle euen at the  
cryers back, and answered not at al (being so straung-  
ly misnamed) vntil he had welmost loste amerement.  
At whych feact (the geste at the laste perceyued) was  
there no smale laughter of all the whole courte.

A bꝛiefe rehearsall of all the rules be-  
foze, with certaine other additions  
thereto pertaynyng.

A copart-  
son of the  
pronunci-  
ation of **p**  
lettets in  
Walshe to  
the pronu-  
ciation of  
**p** Breke  
& **p**elzue  
lettets.



**A**s mooste vnlike of pronounciation to the  
Hebꝛues Aleph.

**B**, mooste entierly resembleth the nature of  
Beth.

**C**, and **K**, be not vnlike in sounde vnto **C**aph & **K**oph.

**Ch**, **chi**, **cheth**, and **caph** with **caphe**, be of one sounde.

**D**, soundeth as **D**aleth **D**aghe **D**ata.

**DD**, conteyneth the power but of one letter, and that  
of **D**helta, oz of **D**haleth, not **D**aggeset.

**E**, is



in the Britische tongue.

**E**, is much spoken after the sound of the bowels **Se** gol, or **Epsilon**.

**F**, and **Beth**, withoute the poynte **Dagges**, or the Greke **Ueta**, be as one in sounde.

**ff** (or) **ph**, agre in pronūctation with the Greke **Phy**, or the Hebraick **phe**, not poynted wyth **Dages**.

**G**, is sounded as **Gimel**.

**H**, and thasperation **he**, be equal in power.

**I**, in euery poynt agreeth wyth the Greke **iota**.

**L**, **Lamedh**, and **Lambdha**, disagree not in sound.

**ll**, countreuayleth **Lambda** coming before **iota**.

**M**, **Mem**, **nun**, and **my**, **ny**, differ not in sound.

**O**, and **Oinega** shall sounde as one

**P**, doeth as well imitate **Phe** and **Phy** in sounde as in other conditions.

**R**, hath a peculier concinnitie with **Rho**.

**S**, **Samech**, and **Sigma** maye go togyther well is noughe for their tune.

**T**, soundeth as **Teth**, or **Taf** in the Greke.

**Th**, hath the very sounde of **Theta** or **Taf** hauinge no **Dages**.

**U**, beyng consonante soundeth as **Beth** wythoute **Dages** or as **Ueta** doeth.

**U**, beyng bowell is read as **kubuts** and not muche vnylike vnto **Ypsilon**.

**V**, hath the very sounde of **Ypsilon**.

What concinnitee the Letters in  
Malpe haue wyth the Greke  
letters.

D.iii.

It



## The pronuniation of the letters



It semethe not only expedient for the learner hereof, to compare the pronuniation of the letters, to the Hebrewes phrase of soundyng, but it is also requisite & no lesse necessarie (for hym that hath a syghte in the Greke tongue) the same also to sort after the diuision of the Greke letters.

Wherfore we call four of the consonantes thynne, bicause they include no maner of aspiration in them: And the same foure shal we call thyck, whan they are aspirated, of whom also thre be called meane, or middle letters, and that whan they be neither thyck, neither yet thynne.

The thynne letters be these: k p t l.

The thycke letters are these: ch ph ll.

The middle letters, g v dd.

And as these letters in the Greke inflexions do passe one into an other, so haue they in Walthe, such like alteration.

The mutable or chaungeable bowels be these: a, w.

The mutable consonantes be these: b p c, or k d ll m t. And all the reste as well of the bowels as of the consonantes be immutable.

## Of the sounde of ch, g, i.

These thre letters, ch, g, i, haue neuer the like sounde in the walthe tong, as they haue in these englysh woordes: Des, chere, gentle, iack.

## Of contraction used in Walthe.

I-o shal be contracted into o, longe, or into aw: as digto, digo, or digaw: lidto or lidaw. And such manner of contraction is moze peculier vnto the Southren walthmen



in the Britische tonge.

swalshmen, than to vs of North wales.

Of accente.

The obseruation of accente is it that shall do muche  
towards the attaynyng of the native pronounciation  
of any language, in so muche that sometime the alte-  
ration of accent shall altere also the signification of the  
word, as in these wordes in Greke: Neos, Tomos, Pharos,  
and these in walshe: gwydd, gwyll, gwyz: and in En-  
glish: these, differ, prouide, denye. &c.

Certayne Engliche wordes wherof ye  
may gather the Walsh pronounciation  
of the letters.

Archangell, Beynge, Called, Michael, Discomfy-  
ted \* Dde, Euer \* fillaynous, fend, Gget, Him, Itch \* Dd for th  
Jeldynge, kest, Laye, Hellitt, Murmurynge, Not, \* F for W  
ouer, Breuayled, Rauenyng, Horrible, Satanas,  
Cormentred, Thozowe, Maleant, Busines, Worthy,  
yll.

These be wordes wherein the letters be  
most unlikely sounded to the walshe pro-  
nounciation of them.

All, Combe, Dombe, Ceasse, Cyue, Checke, Adder,  
Ele, fythe, Gender, Engyn, Humoure, Honour, In,  
Yaundice, Fall, \* Dyll, Reason, Season, Thomas, \* The bis  
That, Uncle, Ydle, Syngyng. de.

The signification of a, in Walthe.



, in walshe set before an interrogatiue reaso  
betokeneth (whether) in english as thus: a d-  
dabo ef; a y ynte ni ddaw: y is (if I might so  
wel phrase it in english) whether will he come  
or whe-



### The pronuniation of the letters

oz whether wyll he not come: A y hton yw ef: is this  
 he: A y hon ywz bwoyddyn becses: is this the bisext  
 oz leape yeare: But ye muste marke that sometime a,  
 in wualthe is the forther piece of ac, whyche agreeth  
 in signification wyth (ac) in latine, and wyth (and) in  
 Englyshe: And thys coniunction ac, in wualthe, set in  
 construction befoze a worde that beginneth wyth a  
 consonaunt shall put away c, and shall be reade after  
 the onli power of a, as thus: Deo a Mair: vn a dau,  
 and not Deo ac Mair, vn ac dau.

### The signification of y.

y, betokeneth in Englyshe (the) as thus: y glowz, the  
 man: y wozac, the woman. And when y, cometh befoze  
 a verbe, it betokeneth (ther) and if the verbe oz word  
 that foloweth after the y, begyn wyth a bowel, than  
 shall there be added d, dd, oz r, vnto the y, for to stop  
 the ouermuch gapinge that the metynge togyther of  
 the to many bowels should els haue caused, as thus:  
 yd, oedd, ydd, oedd (oz) yz, oedd, there was. And some  
 tyme y, includeth in it selfe such a relation as schyn in  
 the Hebrue doeth.

### A genetall rule for the readyng of wualth.



Though there be diuerse precepts heretofore  
 writen of the wualthe pronuniation of the  
 letters, I woulde thinke it not ouermuch dis  
 sonant nor yet to wyde from the purpose, to  
 admonish you in this behalfe, that is: that you ought  
 not



not to reade the **Walſhe** accordynge as ye do the **Englyſhe** or **French**, but even after the readyng of the **latine**. For in readyng **Englyſhe** or **French**, ye do not reade ſome wordes all ſo fully as they be wrote.

And in manye other ye ſeme to ſounde the ſyllables more fully than the expreſſed letters do geue. **Wh**ich maner of readyng is ſo utterly eſchued in **Walſh**, as ye perceyue it to be exactly obſerued of the that perfectly reade the **latine** tong: Neyther do I meane here to call them perfite and latinelyke readers as manye as do read: **agnus**, **magnus**, for **agnus**, **magnus**, **ignis**, for **ignis**: **ſatus**, for **ſactus**,: **ſabot** for **ſal**: **ſowt**, for **ſol**: and for **miht**, **meichei**: and **egow** for **ego**: **tub** for **tu**: and **quith** **ligith**, in ſtede of **quid** **legit**. &c. Therefore ye muſte learne to forget ſuche maner of pronunciation agaynſte ye prepare your ſelues to reade the **Walſh**. More over ye ought to know, theſe wordes **Dringo**, **gwingo**, **kynga**, **myngen**, **anglod**, **angred**: and the moſt part of ſuch lyke **Walſh** wordes hauing **ng**, in them, and beyng of more ſyllables than one, ſhall be reade as theſe **Englyſhe** wordes be (but ye muſte admitte them to be reade nowe as of two ſyllables every worde) **kynges**, **rynges**, **bryngeth**, **ſyngeth**: for even as ye do not reade them: **kyn-geſ**, **ryn-geſ**, **bryn-geſ** **ſyn-geſ**: but rather in thys wyſe: **kyng-es**, **ryn-es**, **bryn-eth**: euen ſo do we ſounde: **Dring-o**, & not **Dringo**: **gwing-o** **myng-en**, and not **myn-gē**: Albeit yet **ang**, maye be ſeuered and parted in this **englyſh** word **ſyngeth** (but the ſignificatio altered) ſo haue we ſome wordes in **Walſhe** (whā they are ſpoken) in whom the ſyllables may be ſeuered in **ng**, as in theſe: **an-gerth**, **llan-gwm**, **trin-gyſch**. &c.



The pronounciation of the letters



**M**Die ouer maister Colingborn, thys shalbe  
further to certify you, that mine intent heres  
in was not to instructe or to teach any man  
absolutely the walshe tongue, but rather to let the rea-  
der haue a sight of it (as it were thow a latteste) and  
to proue whether it were possible for a man to come  
to the naturall speach of a language, wyth the onclie  
introduction of preceptes. For I meane nothing lesse  
thā to go about to enduce any English man to learne  
walshe ( but for hope to attayne so muche englishe of  
such in prmutacion therof ) but contrarily I would  
fayne wyth all industry endeuer my selfe to helpe and  
englishe further all walsheimen to come to the knoweledge of  
Englyshe, as a language mooste expediente, and most  
worthiest to be learned, studied, and enhaced, of al  
them that be subiectes, and vnder the obeysaunce of  
the imperiall diademe, and triumphante Sceptre of  
Englande, euen for the attaynement of knowledge in  
Gods word, and other liberall sciences whiche tho-  
ro we the benefite of the learned men of our dayes be  
communely hadde and sette forth in the said Englishe  
tongue.

walshe Algayne as for the walshe tonge euen as it is not now  
to be compared wyth the Englyshe language, so is it  
not so rude, so grosse, nor so barbarous, as straungers  
beynge therein all ignorant and blynd do adiudge it  
to be: nor yet (to speake indifferentlye wythout all af-  
fections) is it not all so copious, so fyne, so pure, nor so  
fully replenished wth elegancie, graces, & eloquence,  
as they them selues suppose it.

Howbeit whan the whole Isle was communelye



In the Bryttish tonge.

Is called Bryttayne, the dwellers Bryttes or Brytts, who in  
and accordyngelye their language Bryttish, I wyll <sup>lande</sup>  
not refell nor greatlye denye, neyther can I lustelye <sup>Scholes</sup>  
gaynsaye but theyr tonge than was as copious of fit <sup>de & Ma</sup>  
wordes, and all maner of propre vocables, and as <sup>les were</sup>  
well adournated wryth woorthypfull sciences, and ho <sup>called</sup>  
notable knoweledge, as anye other barbarous ton <sup>Bryttaine</sup>  
ges were. <sup>were the</sup>

And so styll continued (though their <sup>Septre de</sup>  
clyned, and theyr kyngedome decayed, and they also <sup>called</sup>  
were driven into the moste unfertyll region, barenest <sup>Bryttain</sup>  
contrey, and moste desert prouince of all the Isle) un-  
tyll the conquest of Wales. For than (as they saye) the  
nobles and the greatest men of the countrey beyng  
captives, & brought prisoners into the tower of Lo-  
don there to remayne durynge their lites, desired of  
a commune requeste, that they myght haue wryth the  
all such booke of their tonge as they moste delited in,  
and so their pition was hearde, and for the lightnes  
sone graunted, and so brought wryth them all the prin-  
cipallest and chiefest booke, as wel of their owne, as  
of other their frendes, of whom they coude obtayne  
any to serue for their purpose: whose mind was none  
other but to passe the time and their predestinate, per-  
petual captiuitie in the amenable varietie of ouer reas-  
dyng and reuoluyng manye volumes, and sent yve  
booke of diuerse sciences and straunge matters.

And that is the commune answer of the Walthe <sup>Barde</sup>  
Bardes (for so call they their Poets or rime makers)  
whan a man shal object or cast in their teath the folow-  
ing

E.ii.

bu



The pronunetation of the letters

**But.** vncertainie and the phantasticall vanities of theyr  
prophecies (whyche they cal Bzutes) or the doubtful  
race and kinde of living of their vncanonised sayntes:  
whom that notwithstandinge they boeth inuocate  
and woꝛthyp wyth the mooste hyghe honoure and  
lowliest reuerence. Addyng and allegynge in excuse  
thereof, that y reliques and residue of the bookes and  
monumentes, as well of their Sayntes lyues, as of  
their Bzutysh prophecies and other sciences (which  
perished not in the tower (for there they saye certayne  
were burned) at the insurrection of their contrye re-  
bell Owen Glyn-dooꝛ: were in like maner destroyed,  
a vtterly deuastat, or at the least wyse that there esca-  
ped not one, that was not vncurablye maymed, and  
irrecupablye tozne and mangled.

**Butto. r.** But hereto it mighte rather appertayne to speake  
**Glyn.** to reneue, and call to remembraunce the diligent and  
curious obseruaunce of olde antiquiti, as concerning  
exact pronunetation and ryght soundynge of wordes  
syllables, and letters, whych euen the noble nation of  
the Grekes (who excelled all other nations in euerie  
kynde of good learnynge) dyd not once neglecte to in-  
uent, practice, and duly execute for the wontynge, ex-  
ercisynge, and perfectinge of the tonge of youthe, to  
the ende it should not so easely stamble, stagger, lisp,  
or relent besyde the iust and true soundynge of all such  
letters, syllables, and wordes, as were hard to be sou-  
ded for the strange concourse and bymont metynge  
together of the ouer manye consonantes in the same:  
Of whych sorte the Grekes haue many wordes, as it  
appeareth in this verse.

*Grayn chithonian es. hros phthones e. rage i ouxiphos e. chithron.*

And



in the Britishe tongue.

And suche verses be called of them *Chalepo*: that is:  
harde to pronounce accordynglye. And the Latines  
haue deuised them for the same purpose thys other  
verse, *Arr stridens coctris, spūne p̄stet coctrida seps stris.*  
And the diligence of the aunciente Englishe men hath  
found out (to auoyde the volutable and sylpper lapse  
of the tongue in soundynge togyther a meyny of woꝝ-  
des conteynynge in them diuerse consonantes of vn-  
lyke pronunciation) thys compacte of woꝝdes & such  
other like. *Thre beanes in a bladder, rattle bladder  
rattle.* Also the *Brytons* (I meane them whom the  
vnlerned and the comyn sorte of people call styll The Eng-  
lish Sa-  
rons cal-  
led firste  
the Bry-  
tons wal-  
themen.  
in the old Saxons terme *Walshmen*) of like regard  
haue ioyned togyther certain woꝝdes for y<sup>e</sup> same intēt:  
whyche who so euer shall redilye, roundely, and per-  
fitelye sound: the same shall also pronounce moze ease-  
lye all other woꝝdes: And ye shall take thys nowe for  
one harde sentence in *Walsh*, but to be spoken round-  
lye: *Daam y bydd garw blayn blew barf gafy? am y  
bod yn poꝝi byc kelyn garw gardd bardd baron. &c.*  
Here is an other of that sorte but shorter: *Barkutan  
yn pigu pupur.* An other as harde. *Kifill ar ben galle  
y pitill.* These examples maye seme to some men not  
onely bulgare and chyldishe, but also bayne, vnfrute-  
full, and no lesse folyshe: and so be they in dede (and  
what is not so, beinge abused or misaken) if they be  
not applyed to the directed scope and purposed intēt.  
But nowe who shall be so vnlucky as to leape ouer a  
blocke and stumble at a strawe: And who is he that  
shal distynely pronounce in *Douch Bildtschnitzer*, but  
the same shall sone pronounce *Uerdamp*: What mā  
is he that can sounde *Wynchester* Englyshe like, but

conq

E.iii.



The pronuntiacion of the letters

consequently speake haile or suche other lyght word:  
And so who is he that can speake thaboue wyghten  
walsh sentences and can mysse of the pronuntiacion of  
other wordes of moare commune construction? And  
bycause (as I protested befor) I do not encend to en-  
courage you nor anye man els, than is oner desierous  
to the studye of Brytyshe (I meane the language that  
by continuall misnomer the recozder of the aunciente  
hostilitie is called X althe) I wyl not once speake a  
a worde in praise of it (thoughe and if I were learned  
I myght say somewhat to it) but willingly will pre-  
termit to set forth the what select wordes, what conso-  
nant and fine termes, and what sententious and net  
adages, whych the olde, sage, & learned fathets haue  
not only inuented, but also of the Grekes and the La-  
tines moſte prosperously haue taken, translated, ac-  
cepted, and vntill thys daye stil retayned: I wyl omit  
to declare any white of the manifolde reozical phra-  
ses, I wyl wink at the tropes, metaphores, & trans-  
lations, and such maner of speeches whych the Bry-  
tyſhe tonge hath as commune, yea rather as peculier  
or sisterlyke wyth the holy language.

The De-  
blue toge

And as for to conferte the pronuntiacion of them  
both togyther I wyl not: for, what shuld I make a  
comparison betwexte whyte, and euen like whyte: or  
liken an egge, to an egge? And if I shoulde but once  
enter to treat of the vnspekeable felicitye, and the wo-  
derous graces of the Brytyſhe meters (who his inex-  
plorable obseruatiue composition, no man but by the  
onely gite of nature hath euer attayned) I shoulde ne-  
uer make an ende.

Toke els  
in palle  
leave

But nowe after thys, oh, howe it greaueth me to  
Disclose



In the Britishe tongue.

disclose the unfayned trueth, and to confesse the vnde-  
simuled veritie, that there remaineth now but walsh  
pamphlets for the goodly Brytish booke, sometyme  
so well furnished wyth all kynde of literature: and so  
fewe Brytysh fragmentes of the booke of Christes  
owne religion remaine vnworneaten, and defended  
from inturpe of tyme, and the booke of Howel da ap  
Cadell so longe preserved safe and sounde: Yea, it is  
rather to be lamented and greatly to be sorowed to see  
howe fewe Walshemen haue the knoweledge of the  
Englyshe tongue, whiche as by the next way mought  
nowe restaure for the outworne baren Britishe, the  
reliques of the noble Britons to their euer affectio-  
nate knowledg, and accustomed learnynge of good  
letters, pietie, and godlines.

For if þ  
gospel be  
hyd, it is  
hid among  
the that  
are lost.  
ii. Co. iiii

But nowe master Colingborne, leaste peraduen-  
ture, where I thynke my selfe but familiarly to talke  
here with you, and other my familiars (as my mea-  
nyng is none other in dede) some thankeles taunter  
entermeddle and say vnto me, alludynge to that mocke  
of Diogenes. *O vici mundi portas occludit, ne quando  
verba vestra egrediatur.* meanyng thus thereby. O my

good frende haue done wyth your Walsh fa-

bles haue done: for els your toly proemion

and your goodly paragon shalbe les

ger than al your booke besyde:

Here therfore at y last

I make an

ende.

FINIS.



An addiclon.

The maner of one kynde of meter in the Brite  
tonge.

DISTICHI BRITANNICI POLYMETRI RATIO THEORETICA  
Genus metri.

Liccanet croes cysne Wido.



In other kynde of meter.

Pop g Wlat aeth [o rat Wn a thri] De Bzaint

J Brintio me Wn tre bi.

And anos me Wn Daoni

Bot p: Wn g Waith in Jaith ni.

Aebi caradd ac cane.

FINIS.

[see o  
rat Des  
o]